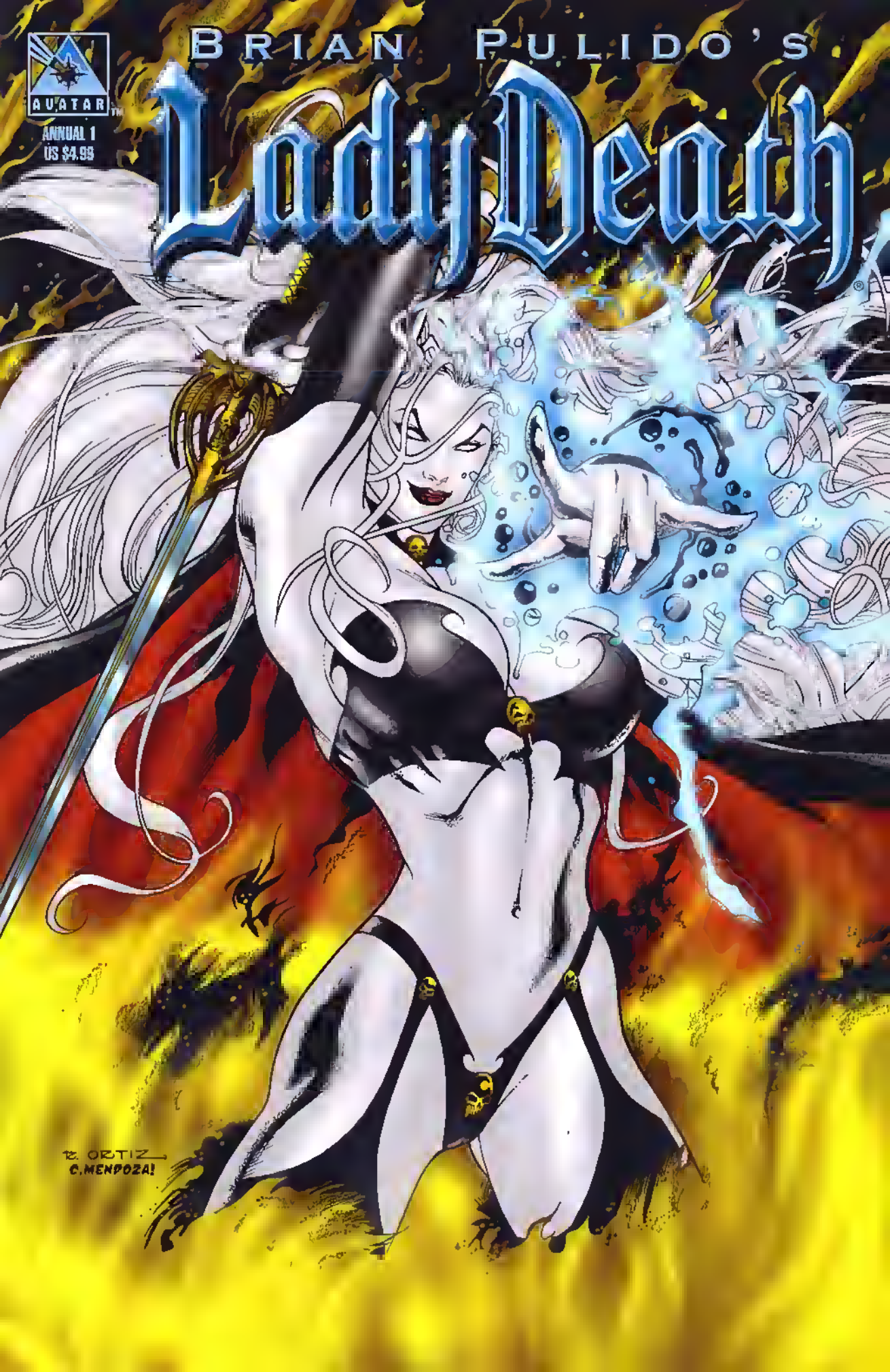
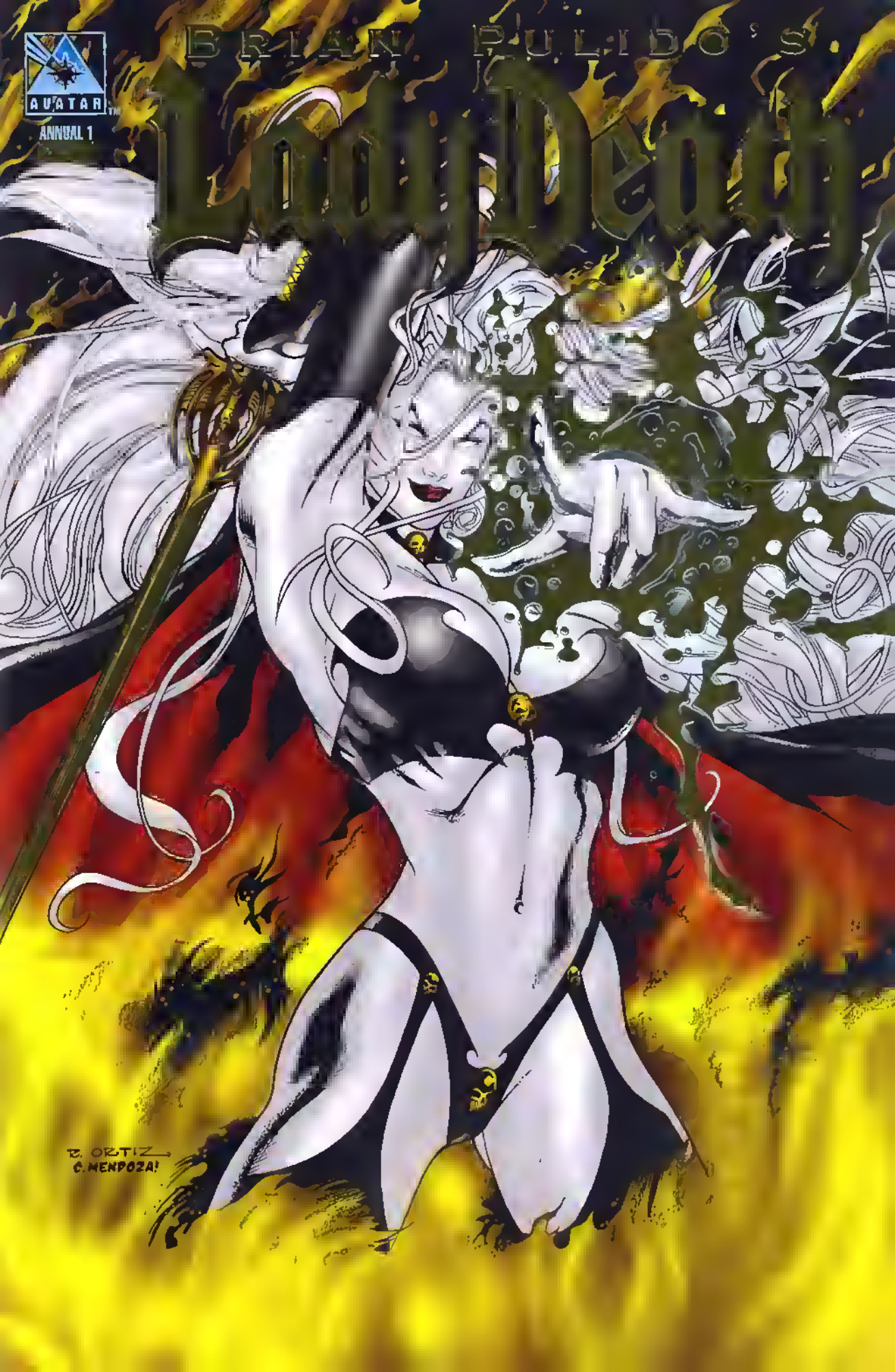

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THE ONYX RIDGE OF NORTHERN TERRA-RUK. TEN NIGHTS' TRAVEL FROM THE NEAREST OUTPOST.
WARGOTH, I NEVER TOOK YOU FOR ONE WHO WOULD EVER REST.
I MEAN, YOUR LUST FOR BLOOD, BATTLE AND CONQUEST, I KNOW ALL TOO WELL.
BUT THIS--
THERE'S MANY THING YOU DO NOT KNOW ABOUT ME, LADY DEATH. LET'S KEEP IT AT THAT.
INDEED.
WE ALL MUST TAKE TIME TO RE-ACCESS, DON'T WE, SATASHA?


IT'S AMAZING.
COME ALONG.
THEY'RE EXPECTING US.
HELLO WARGOTH, MY OLD FRIEND!
I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT... ENTERTAINMENT!
YOU MISUNDERSTAND, FLAZINO.
THIS IS MY STUDENT, LADY DEATH, AND SATASHA.
WE TRAVEL TOGETHER.
THIS IS COUNT FLAZINO.
HA! OF COURSE YOU DO!
YOUR BUSINESS IS NO BUSINESS OF MINE!
YOU REMEMBER MY SISTER, MALORY?
AND MY HEART AND SOUL, INDRA AND BALAGAN.
TAKE YOUR FINGER OUT OF YOUR NOSE, BALAGAN!
WHERE'S YOUR LOVELY WIFE?


YOU DIDN'T HEAR...
MY POOR GENOA, SHE DIED THREE MOONS AGO.
I CAN'T BEAR TO EVEN THINK OF IT.
I'M SORRY.
YOU DIDN'T TELL ME WE WERE HAVING SPECIAL GUESTS, FLAZINO.
WHAT CAN I SAY?
I BARELY CARE TO WAKE, MUCH LESS THAN TEND TO DETAILS OF THE DAY. MY LOVELY FLOWER, GONE. MY SHINING LIGHT, SNUFFED OUT.
FLAZINO, GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF. THE CHILDREN, THE GUESTS.
OH, I'M SO SORRY. PLEASE EXCUSE MY SELF-PITY.
COME, YOUR EVERY PLEASURE WILL BE FULFILLED!
WELCOME TO CASTLE ALCAZAR!

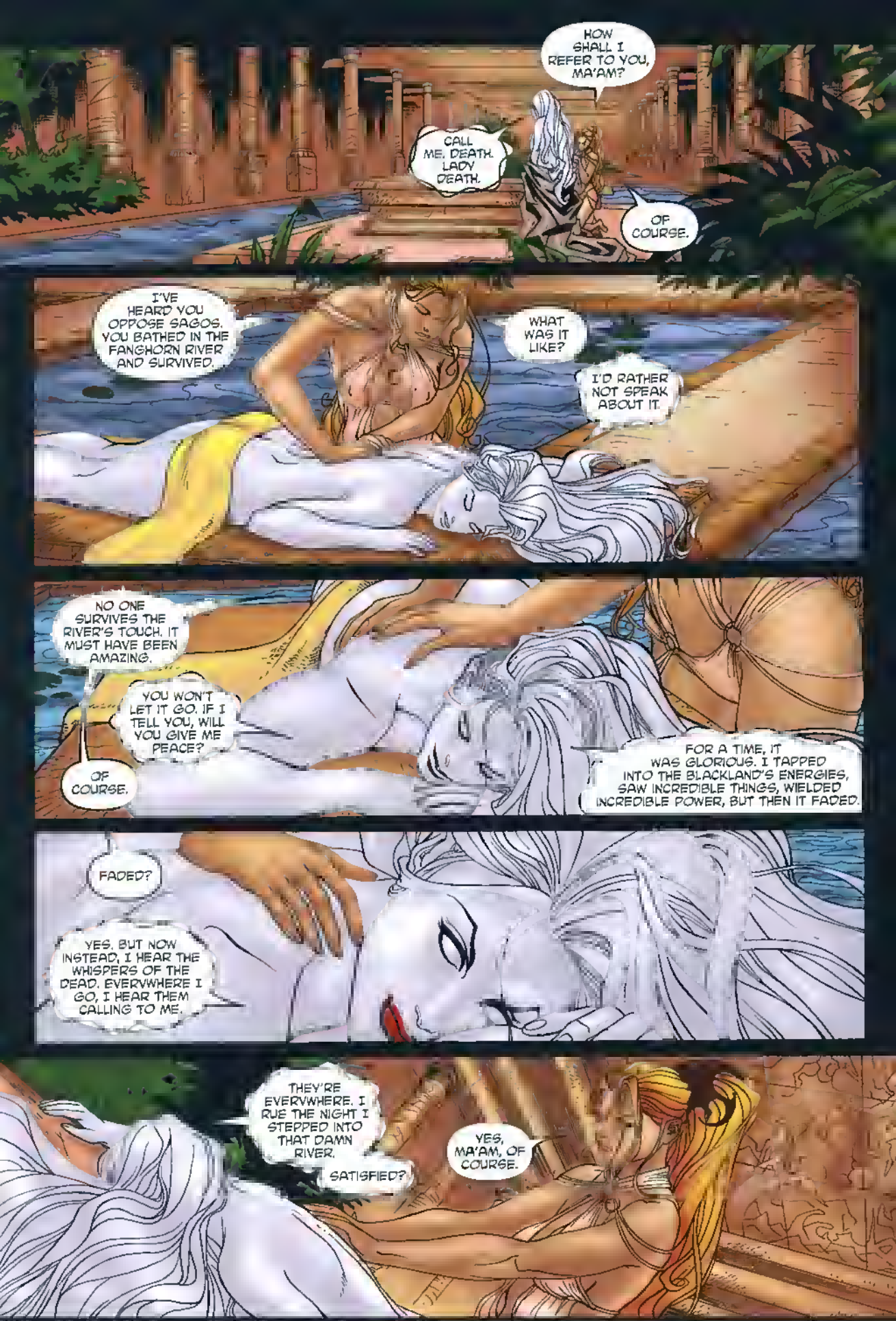
KRICK.

KKRAK

KOOM

ELENORRRRRAAAA...

I'M COMING, MY LOVE.


HOW SHALL I REFER TO YOU, MA'AM?
CALL ME, DEATH. LADY DEATH.
OF COURSE.
I'VE HEARD YOU OPPOSE SAGOS. YOU BATHED IN THE FANGHORN RIVER AND SURVIVED.
WHAT WAS IT LIKE?
I'D RATHER NOT SPEAK ABOUT IT.
NO ONE SURVIVES THE RIVER'S TOUCH. IT MUST HAVE BEEN AMAZING.
YOU WON'T LET IT GO. IF I TELL YOU, WILL YOU GIVE ME PEACE?
OF COURSE.
FOR A TIME, IT WAS GLORIOUS. I TAPPED INTO THE BLACKLAND'S ENERGIES, SAW INCREDIBLE THINGS, WIELDED INCREDIBLE POWER, BUT THEN IT FADED.
FADED?
YES. BUT NOW INSTEAD, I HEAR THE WHISPERS OF THE DEAD. EVERYWHERE I GO, I HEAR THEM CALLING TO ME.
THEY'RE EVERYWHERE. I RUE THE NIGHT I STEPPED INTO THAT DAMN RIVER.
SATISFIED?
YES, MA'AM, OF COURSE.


HUNGRY?
ALWAYS
WAKE UP, WENCHES...
THE NIGHT IS YOUNG.


MAKLU, PLEASE FORGIVE MY ACTIONS IN THIS TIME OF WAR.
SAGOS HAS MURDERED MY MOTHER, CRIPPLED MY BROTHER AND LAID MY HOMELAND ABBERFFRAW TO WASTE.
WHO I WAS IS GONE. I AM ONLY AN INSTRUMENT OF VENGEANCE NOW.
PLEASE, LORD. FORGIVE WHAT I'VE BECOME AND FORGIVE WHAT I SHALL DO IN THE FUTURE.


TO US! TO LIFE!
AND TO YOU, ILLIANA. WHEN I LOOK INTO YOUR EYES, I SEE LOVE. THANK YOU FOR BEING IN MY LIFE.
YOU'RE SUCH A ROMANTIC, RULF.
THIS PLACE IS PERFECT.
I COULDN'T ASK FOR MORE.
NOTHING IS TOO GOOD FOR MY WIFE
MMMMM. I LOVE HOW THAT SOUNDS.
ELENORA!
PLEASE!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
SHUT YOUR TRAP BITCH!
PLEASE. I'VE DONE NOTHING...
UMPH!
FRAK
LEAVE. HER ALONE!
RULF!


...
ELENORAAAAA...
PLEASE...
PLEASE...
YOU'RE NOT ELENORA...


MOST OF YOU CAME HERE TO GET AWAY FROM THE TRIALS OF YOUR EVERY DAY LIFE. WELL, YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.
YOU WILL EXPERIENCE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY LIKE *NEVER* BEFORE.
WHERE ARE OUR NEWLYWEDS, MALORY?
PERHAPS THEIR MINDS ARE NOT ON DINNER.
WELL SAID.
ALL HAIL THE MIGHTY HEROES.
THE TRIO TO MY RIGHT SINGLE-HANDEDLY STOPPED SAGOS'S ARMY AT THE GATES OF ABBERFFRAW.
YOU SOUND ANGRY, FLAZINO. PERHAPS YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH WINE.
C'MON 'GOTH. THE WAR IS BAD FOR BUSINESS.
SAGOS DOESN'T KNOW YOUR WHEREABOUTS, DOES HE?
NO, HE DOESN'T. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, FLAZINO--YET. BUT IF SAGOS HAS HIS WAY, HE'LL DESTROY *ALL LIFE* IN THE BLACKLANDS.


PERHAPS WE SHOULD CHANGE THE SUBJECT. YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT RELIGION AND POLITICS...
PERHAPS YOU NEED TO SETTLE DOWN. MARRY ONE OF THESE FINE LADIES.
MARRY?
MARRY? THAT'S FUNNY.
FUNNY? WHY?
IT *IS* RATHER FUNNY, ISN'T IT?
HA HA HA
WELL YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MARRIAGE MATERIAL.
YOU NEED TO TEACH THESE LADIES A LITTLE RESPECT.
THEY'RE *WARRIORS*, FLAZINO, NOT SIMPLE BREEDING STOCK.


FLAZINO, DROP IT.
IF IT IS SOMETHING I SAID...
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, THIS CONVERSATION IS AMUSING BUT...
LET HER GO. IT IS OKAY.
SAGOS HOLDS LADY DEATH'S MOTHER CAPTIVE...
...SHE FEELS TERRIBLE GUILT ANY TIME SHE IS NOT PURSUING HIM.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
NO. IT IS THE MARRIAGE TALK. TWO YEARS AGO, I HAD A LIFE. I COULD HAVE MET A MAN. WE WOULD HAVE MARRIED, HAD CHILDREN. BUT NOW...
...WE SCURRY ABOUT THE BLACKLANDS WITH AN EX-SLAVE TRADER INTENT ON MURDERING THE MOST POWERFUL WARLOCK EVER TO WALK ANY REALM.
IT'S NOT WHAT I WOULD HAVE PREDICTED FOR MYSELF EITHER, BUT IT IS THE ROAD WE CHOSE.


I'M SORRY.
FOR WHAT? BEING VULNERABLE? DON'T WORRY, THIS IS BETWEEN US.
WE ARE NO USE TO THE WAR, AND YOU ARE NO USE TO YOUR MOTHER, UNLESS WE ARE RESTED AND READY FOR BATTLE.
GET SOME SLEEP, HOPE.
YOU'LL FEEL BETTER TOMORROW.


ERAGGHHH!
SPLUNK
YOU!
ME?
YOU WILL PAY!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU!


URK!
LIES!
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU DID!
YOU KNOW WHAT ALL OF YOU DID!
UGH!
KRRAK
ALL RIGHT. IF YOU WANT A FIGHT... MONSTER...


...THEN HAVE AT IT!
BZZZRRRTTTTTT
ELENORAAAA...


CAN'T SLEEP.
THE WHISPERS OF THE DEAD
SO CLOSE
DEAR GOD!
THE NEWLYWEDS!


WARGOTH!
WE HAVE··
··PROBLEMS?
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN...
...I APPRECIATE YOUR ADVANCES, LADY DEATH, BUT FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, I'M NOT IN THE MOOD.
EVER THE JOKER.
YOU'RE HEALING...
NOT FAST ENOUGH.
DID YOU SEE THEM?
THEM?
SOME MADMAN ATTACKED ME.
THEN, FROM BEHIND, THIS.
IT GETS WORSE
THE NEWLYWEDS WERE MURDERED.
SO MUCH FOR PEACE AND TRANQUILITY AT CASTLE ALCAZAR.


ELENORA, PLEASE MY LOVE, WAKE.
WHAT?
WHOEVER YOU ARE, I'M NOT ELENORA.
WE MUST GO.
THEY'RE COMING.
SWAK
BE STILL.
I CAN TELL BY YOUR EYES, YOU'RE UNDER A SPELL.


MY LOVE, PLEASE!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
QUIET!
LET THE STONE TELL ME WHAT I NEED TO KNOW.
HARMON! HELP! PLEASE!
ELENORA!
ELENORAAAAA!
PLEASE!
SHUT YER TRAP.
DON'T MAKE THIS ANY HARDER THAN IT NEEDS TO BE, LASS.
UGH!


GER-AACK!
YER ANIMALS!
LET HER GO.
HE'S A FEISTY ONE. I'LL GIVE 'EM THAT.
NOT THAT IT MATTERS.
WHAT?
HOLD HIM STEADY.
THAT'LL TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF HIM
ERAAAAAAAAAAA!
WE BEST GET ON WITH IT.
JUST A SEC


JUST SO YOU KNOW SHE WAS WORTH IT.
A CENTURY LATER...
RISE UP!
ELENORA!
UH--!
WE MUST GO.


FLAZINO!
FLAZINO!
WAKE UP!
THERE'S TROUBLE.
YOUR LOVE LIFE IS NO BUSINESS OF MINE!
NO, YOU IDIOT!
THE NEWLYWEDS ARE DEAD AND WARGOTH'S BEEN ATTACKED! CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT?
OH, I SEE ALL RIGHT.
LOOK!
SATASHA!
EXCUSE ME...


KRRACK!
THE WOMAN IS UNDER MY PROTECTION.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ELENORA!
YOU'RE MAKING NO SENSE.


HAVE TO PUT A STOP—
WHAT?
YOU'RE NOT FELLED BY MY SWO-
URK!
ELENORA?!
NO.
YOU'RE MAD, INSANE!
YOU MURDERED THE NEWLYWEDS!
ELENORA, WHERE ARE YOU?


WHAT IS HAPPENING? I HEARD--
MALORY! THANK MAKLU YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.
LOOK, THERE'S A MADMAN ON THE LOOSE!
HOPE, NO!
STOP!
THIS ISN'T HIS FAULT!
ELENORA!
IT'S HERS!
THAT'S ABSURD!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE, WARGOTH? CAN'T YOU CONTROL YOUR WOMEN?
MALORY CAST A SPELL ON THIS POOR CREATURE.
HE SEEKS HIS LOST WIFE, CONFUSING ME WITH HER. HE BELIEVED WARGOTH WAS PART OF THE HORDE THAT MURDERED HER.
WHY, MALORY?


THIS IS RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE HER WORD AGAINST MINE ARE YOU?
I-I-I--
WARGOTH, YOU HAVE A LOT TO ANSWER FOR HERE.
HOW DID YOUR WIFE DIE, FLAZINO?
THIS IS ABSURD!
SHE WAS POISONED.
HOW COULD YOU, HOW COULD YOU KNOW?!
I CULLED IT FROM MALORY'S MIND. SHE MURDERED HER!
SHE NEEDED HER OUT OF THE WAY SO THIS CREATURE COULD FINISH THE JOB AND KILL YOU.
THEN SHE WOULD INHERIT THE CASTLE!
LIES!
IT IS THE TRUTH!
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE!
MALORY!!!
THEN IT'S TRUE!
YES, YES IT'S ALL TRUE, YOU FAT, SIMPERING, BALL OF DUNG.
FATHER MADE A MISTAKE WHEN HE BEQUEATHED IT TO YOU. YOU NEVER DESERVED CASTLE ALCAZAR!
NOW, ALL OF YOU, STAY BACK, OR I'LL BLAST HIS WORTHLESS HIDE TO BITS.


ACK!
EEAAAA..
MALORY!
HOW COULD YOU?!
MALOORYYY...
OH SHUT UP, PIG!
CONSIDERING WHAT I'VE PUT UP WITH YOU THIS STAY, I JUST DID YOU A FAVOR-- AND YOU SHOULD THANK ME!
WITH MALORY DOWN, THE SPELL IS LIFTED.
HE LOOKS READY TO POUNCE.
GIVE IT A MOMENT.
ELENORAAA...
NO, NOT ELENORA


POOR CREATURE. DRIVEN BY HIS PASSIONS, EVEN IN DEATH.
NOT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM US, DON'T YOU THINK?
SOME VACATION...
THE END